



STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY



Press Release

Dated: April 14, 2005

The Connecticut Sex Offender Registry Unit reports a record increase for the month of March in the number of hits to the state's Sex Offender Registry website. In March of this year 1,260,889 hits were recorded to the registry website, nearly three times as many hits as in February of 2005 and more than 25% of the total number of hits for 2004.

Registry spokesman Sgt. Sam Izzarelli stated "We have clearly seen where current issues or publicity related to the registry sparks an increase in the number of registry hits. Sgt. Izzarelli went on to say "the number of phone calls, emails, and website hits have all increased since the arrested of a registered sex offender in the abduction of 9-year old Jessica Lunsford in Homosassa Florida".

Connecticut has 3785 registered sex offenders living, working, or attending schools in Connecticut. Persons required to register under Connecticut's sex offender registry laws must verify their address every 90 days. The registrants have 10 days to return an address verification form to the Sex Offender Registry or face arrest for a class "D" felony. Connecticut law also requires persons convicted in a foreign jurisdiction of a crime that is substantially the same as a crime that requires registration in Connecticut to register with the Connecticut Sex Offender Registry within ten days of residing in Connecticut. Persons that violate this law will be subject to arrest for a class "D" felony.

Department of Public Safety Commissioner Leonard Boyle testified before the state's Judiciary Committee earlier this month urging for passage of legislation that would toughen Connecticut's Sex Offender Registry laws. Commissioner Boyle stated "It is not only important that we have registry laws, but it is equally important that we take appropriate enforcement action against those who violate those laws".

The Connecticut Sex Offender Registry website had over 4,600,000 hits on registered sex offenders living, working, or attending schools in the state in 2004. Information can be searched on the website by last name, town, zip code, or by viewing an entire list of registrants. The information is provided free of charge and persons making inquiries do not have to identify themselves.

If you have questions regarding the registration of sex offenders in Connecticut or have information on a registered sex offender that appears to be in violation please contact the Connecticut Department of Public Safety, Division of State Police, Sex Offender Registry Unit at P.O. Box 2794, Middletown, CT 06457-9294 or by phone at 860-685-8060. Registry records are also available at local police departments for registrants living within that department's jurisdiction.

**To access the Connecticut Sex Offender Registry
Website:**

www.state.ct.us/dps

"Any person who uses information in this registry to injure, harass or commit a criminal act against any person included in the registry or any other person is subject to criminal prosecution."